

horn-band, where each man has only to produce one sound, its note is purer and better than the artificially produced notes of any pan-phonic instrument which has ever been brought into use.

And even should any of our scientific officers be ignorant of all other things besides his particular art, to us as a collegiate architectural body it would matter little, provided he give us the fruit of the particular gift or talent for which we have elected him for our service.

If it be said why, when there were already so many societies in existence devoted to architecture, the foundation of the College of the Freemasons of the Church was undertaken? Let me answer to such as may not be intimately acquainted with the nature of the English Masonic movement, bearing in mind the voice of architectural society,—that had those institutions promoted to the proper and legitimate purpose the objects of their foundation, this association would never have been framed. Allow me, Gentlemen, to say, that those who have promoted the formation of this institution, bore in mind the fact, that no architectural society existed before any of the existing architectural societies were even thought of; those who have framed this institution, and have accented it into promising growth which will doubtless flourish, have besides original ideas of greater compass than those which have led to the formation of any of the existing societies, and have been the benefactors of the experience of their languishment, dissensions and failure. We have, therefore, the advantage of original conception purified by such experience; we have eschewed with our freemasonic body the result of bygone experience; we have had the advantage of much silence; and I may say that we have been the recipients of a very large amount of intelligent and respectable body of scientific persons than ever before were linked in one association of the same nature.

We have other advantages:—for *my* years past not only have professional persons hinted and even loudly contended that some great cause exists requiring the formation of such an association, but they and the whole public have agreed that architecture is a noble art, that it is a science, that it is interesting; and all in concert have complained that such societies as have been founded have failed of their objects: hence we have not only apology for this foundation, but we have been positively encouraged by the encouragement of the public, sometimes, by the community of mind operating to that end, and fortuitously drawn out, and as it were crystallized together: and may such crystallization be shining, and reflect purity and in native beauty all the beauty of the design, of the talent, of the ability, of the illustration, of the which, *Gentlemen*, I know you as a body and as scientific individuals to be gifted. It would be injurious in me on the present occasion to attempt particularising the cases in which other societies and individuals have failed, and I shall therefore deem it to be my duty, and I know I shall be rewarded by friends so sterling in such resolve, to undo the evil offices which have been performed by others towards our noble art of architecture: to water the plant, and make it spring up many-fold where poison has been disseminated, we shall confine it within the moderate bounds of medicinal utility: where rude excision has been unadvisedly made, we shall exercise such healing and such gentle pruning as may do no harm, and which will, and not destroy.

In a word, the office of the Freemasons of the **Church** will ever be to admire and endeavour to imitate, at humble distance, the constructive wisdom of the **Architect of the Universe**, who while planning the entirety of the heavens' starry frame, has not forgotten the articulation of the limbs of the microscopic insect, nor has thrown away one particle of creation's mass.

By the institution of the class of Architectural Associates, we hope the greatest results.

We do not propose such grade for the teaching of old practitioners (though none of us profess to be too old to learn); on the contrary, all confessing ourselves to be mere pupils, but to imbue the rising members of the profession with principles which shall stand the test of time, that sterility of philosophy, and to provide for such adolescent architects, canons by which the powers of their mind directed aright and assisted orthodoxy, they may, by a moderate age, acquire all the learning which the experienced architectural practitioner has to impart.

"First, we cannot pretend to provide for the  
 man by nature dull; BUT WE CAN TEACH THE  
 Dullest to profit by the CANONS OF ARCHI-  
 TECTURAL TRUTH, WITH WHICH GOD HAS STORED  
 SOME FEW MINDS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE  
 MANY; and when we look at the countless works  
 of antiquity, and find so many thousands of them  
 approaching the perfection which genius, GOD'S

have been more common (which is a thing we deny) or that through community of imparting knowledge, persons of inferior ability were able to profit, and were led according to the rules which Christos can impart and order in her paths, WHICH THOUGH SEEMINGLY SCENTYRIC, LIES THOSE OF THE BLASING COMET, ARE IN LIEB MANNER NATURAL AND ORDERLY.

We have laid down methods for nomenclature in architecture,—for the distinguishing of colours in cameo drawings and engravings, by which draughts of coloured glass and mosaic can be printed in the cheapest possible manner, and be circulated among the workmen of means the most contracted, and thus found again good taste with the multitude who must ever, like the herbage of the fields, form the chief covering of the globe. We have begun the completion of the nomenclature of architecture, rendered necessary by the fact of there not being previously a distinct name for one thing in twenty in Gothic architecture,—a whole line of words being often necessary to distinguish some small article.

We have undertaken the subdivision and classification of the present ill-arranged subdivisions of Pointed Architecture, so as to improve and facilitate the means of its knowledge and practice. Much of this is already done, and much more have we in our hands, but we have not time to publish it, having not how slowly have the grand improvements in art and science taken place, should grow weary under any assumed undue delay in our open appearance, my short answer is—I know we have already ventured farther, and have done more than we were permitted to do, and we have no architectural power scientific limits, than any other architectural society which has existed since the decline and total derange of the Firmansons of the olden time, whose name is so great, but whose work, living in every place, and given to the world, is so much greater still, in all Christian lands, and in so much greater still.

And here I might be asked by some who know not the true significance of the term *freestonry*, why we have assumed such a title. To that may be said, it is but right so to do; for architects and structural constructors in durable stone fabric, masonry, brick, and *not men of lath and plaster*, free. I trust we shall be to keep over by scientific impetus the old hedge of architectural ignorance, which had impounded the art, and left us no freedom of scientific and architectural action; and if we must be emparked, let us know no pale but that of science—let us fear no straying but that of the over-leaping of the walls of integrity, sterling purpose, and scientific impulses.

We do not desire to destroy existing architectural institutions, but when they are purged and set upon a right footing, to unite all, and so to bind up one powerful weapon against future corruption and subversion.

Some might ask, why have we adjointed to the architectural department those of literary and lay fellows? My answer is, the day being past when extraneous lay interference in architecture can be prevented, we must at least make the most of it; and as education has so occurred in the profession of architecture that it cannot be removed or prevented, are obliged for patronage and for power so to continue it, endeavouring to educate the public to good taste by means of lectures, and by the publication of books although the Grecian temple and the Gothic cathedral were alike the result of high professional talent and taste, with which no public had ever any hand, and we could easily prove that from the hour when public preference was allowed to influence and delude architects, the first steps, their commandments, the contempt of that public for the very works of that architecture with which it had had so much hand; the VERY CORRUPT AND GROSSNESS OF THE MACHINERY, NEARLYING BARRIERS OF THE DAY, THE DISAPPEARANCE OF ALL ARTS, THE DEGRADATION OF ARCHITECTURE, GENERALLY CONFINEERING THIS ADAMANT TO ANCIENT EDIFICES BUILT ALONE BY SCIENTIFIC MEN, IN WHICH IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO SEE WHETHER MOST AGENDE TASTE OR SCIENCE, THAT THE FIRST PRINCIPLE OF GREAT ART WAS AN EXAMPLE GRACIOUS ARCHITECTURE.

Why we have blended the *ritergo* with us I think can need no questioning. While the clergy must have so much to do with church architecture, their exclusion would be vain; therefore it must be for the interest of all, that clergy and laity should go hand in hand with each other, and so profiting mutually, and partaking of the same imbuing of taste and science, the fabrication of sound edifices may rightly progress.

any thing which has fallen into a state of irregularity, then would little be done to regenerate things so fallen.

I can, and I trust my friends here assembled can, bear to stoop to conquer—can bear to undergo that necessary preliminary to heroism which lies in undertaking something, the engaging in which borders in the minds of quiet, ordinary people, upon the ridiculous.

We have drawn together the *élite* of architectural science, having around us perhaps the best in each department; we have become fenced in and bolstered by a firm *esprit de corps*, for the want of which other architectural societies have failed, for they indeed have never been nurtured as brother-hoods.

We have been by fortuitous circumstances placed in a situation for the diffusion of our labours, opinions, and knowledge, to all branches of the building community; we have the means of heralding into all countries the fruits of our science, research, and perseverance.

It is a matter of proud feeling and high congratulation to our fraternity, that while not asking for membership with strings so long as we have been engaged as lawyers, the number have increased, and considerable revenue has been secured, while it is so much as one original member has left us, it would be impossible to find a second who has.

It will be in after-life matter of some gratification to me that our friends have built up and nestled the College under this roof. I have firm confidence that, as it is growing strong on the wing, it will ere long take bolder flight and build its own nest. Till then I shall be proud of its still finding here an abiding place.

I must, therefore, conclude, thanking you for the patient hearing with which you have honoured me and trusting that as the time has arrived when the fully formed, the College will commence opening its operations, that something worthier, contributed by our scientific members, will, on the next occasion arrest your attention—whether it be graphic or whether it be literary.

The next meeting will be that of the 17th or Saint Mark's Chapter, on Tuesday evening the 16th instant.

CHURCH-BUILDING INTELLIGENCE, &c.

*Restoration of St. Olave's Church.*—The restoration of St. Olave's Church, which was severely injured by the destructive fire at Topping's wharf, in the autumn of last year, is rapidly advancing. The slating of the new roof was completed on Saturday week, and the reparation of the tower is progressing briskly. The fittings of the interior are also in a forward state. The Ionic columns, and the statues of the apostles in the galleries, and the entire of the communion, including the statues of Moses and Aaron, and the tables of the decalogue, are in tolerable preservation. Whether the bells will be recast or not is at present undecided. It is stated that Mr. Allen, the architect, intends so far to complete the building as to have the sacred pile ready for public service, by the ensuing autumn, and that the architect has in his hands some interesting illustrations of this beautiful work of Filareto, who for many years assisted Sir Christopher Wren.

The site for a new church to be erected in Union-street, Long-Acre, has been marked out, the tower of which will be built upon the exact area where stood the public-house, the Quaker, Earl of Warwick, which existed for many years. The house was a fine specimen of edifice, which will be called "Christ Church, St. Giles-in-the-Fields," will be constructed with Gaeo stone and Kentish rag, and will be made capable of containing about 1,000 persons. It will contain a large hall, a gallery, a choir, and a steeple. The interior of the edifice will be 50 feet wide by 70 long. The cost of it will be rather more than 4,000*l.*, a portion of which is provided from the Metropolitan Churches Fund, but the greater part has been raised by voluntary contributions from the poor, and inhabitants. A sum will also be subscribed for the endowment of the church. Adjoining this building will be some spacious houses, erected according to the plans of the Commissioners, and when completed, will make a very great improvement in the aspect of the metropolis.